GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:635
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
PAMBAN RAILWAY BRIDGE
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pamban Railway Bridge across the Palk Straits in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu has been opened for traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have any proposal to introduce more services from Rameswaram to other destinations in the country and also to seek World Heritage Status for the Pamban Bridge; and

(d) if so the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Gauge Conversion of Manamadurai-Rameswaram including Pamban Bridge has already been completed and the converted broad gauge section is commissioned for passenger train services on 12.08.2007 by running 03 pairs of trains viz. 6713/6714 Chennai Egmore-Rameswaram Express, 751/752 & 753/754 Madurai-Rameswaram Passengers.

(c) & (d): Introduction of 8495/8496 Bhubaneswar-Rameswaram Express (Weekly) and Madurai- Rameswaram passenger train has been announced in the Railway Budget for 2007-08 and 2006-07 respectively.

Southern Railway has planned to seek World Heritage status for Pamban Bridge.